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Cedars, March 2011

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CEDARS

Revolutions

FOR

DUMMIES

March 2011

The Student News Publication of Cedarville University



A Reference for the Rest of Us!

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by The Associated Press

CEDARS

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CEDARS

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Just Sayin' ...

11 Hours, 10 Junior Highers and 1 Good Time

When you're anticipating staying up all night with 10 junior high kids, you can't go in unprepared. So I created what I like to call a massive "Mom-pack" in a sling-back bag. I filled it with candy to keep the kids awake, Tums for when they ate too much, Band-Aids, Tide pens and extra socks. I figured I was prepared for anything that could possibly happen. But I forgot that with junior highers, you can never be fully prepared.



Bekah Cvetich

Within the first two hours of Cedarmania, I realized this. At snack time, one of the boys stuffed his pants full of Pepsi cans. Another kid scribbled designs all over his face with markers ... permanent markers. Then one of the girls, while playing a game where you pass a pen around a circle, decided that the best way to win the game was to fling the pen across the room, sometimes nailing the group leader (aka me) in the face.

I also took a hit to my ego when one of my girls owned me in two different inflatable challenge courses. Those air-filled monsters were rigged. The worst part was that, when the thing spit me out at the end, I somehow missed the safety pad right outside it and made too good of friends with the gym floor. Twice.

I really laughed when our group had to make Wanted posters to fit the Western theme. The boys filled the page with guns and bullets and the girls scrawled hearts and butterflies all over it. I couldn't decide if the poster made me want to shoot the outlaw or hug him.

Those kids were crazy. And I had to tell them more than once that eating worms is not a good idea. But I loved them. They were funny and sweet and awkward — everything junior high kids should be. And while they each probably felt out of place before coming that night, Cedarmania gave them an opportunity to belong somewhere and to just let go and be themselves. In turn, I could let go of all my college worries and just focus on helping these kids have the time of their lives, even if that involved getting stuck in the inflatable slide or finding candy wrappers in my pockets for the next three days.


I was prepared for every kind of disaster these kids could have gotten themselves into. But what I wasn't prepared for was how they would impact me, how they would teach me to relax and have fun and remind me how much I love junior highers.

Before the kids took off for home, one of the tiniest boys hugged me and said, "Thank you so much for spending your time with us." All I could say was, "I wouldn't have wanted to spend it any other way."

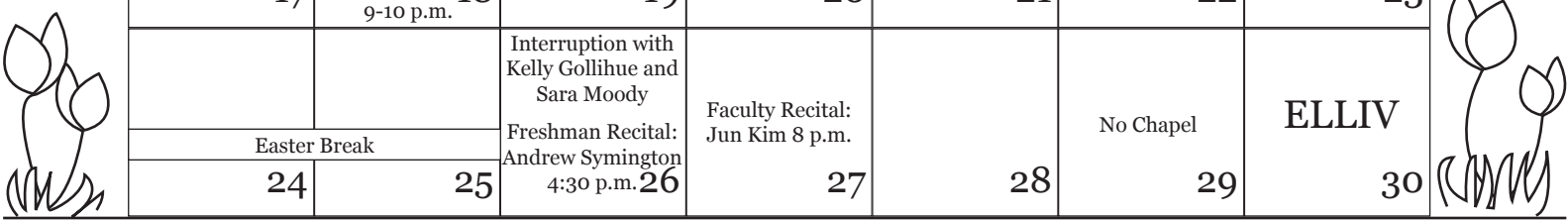


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April 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Radiance 7-10 p.m. DMC 1	2
3	BD's Mongolian BBQ for Grace- haven 5-9 p.m. Reading by Kwame Dawes 4	5	Invisible Children Screening 7:30-9, Recital Hall 6	7	CU Friday Bach's Lunch Noon Recital Hall 8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
"See How They Run" - 8 p.m. and Saturday 2 p.m. Matinee						
"See How They Run" 3 p.m. Matinee Sr. Reception at the Brown's 17	Bach's Lunch ProTerraForma Paper Making 8:30 Encounter 18 9-10 p.m.	19	Jazz Band Concert 4:30 Chapel Irish Music Festival 8 p.m. Stoney Creek 20	21	Easter Break	
Easter Break		25	26	27	28	29
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					No Chapel	ELLIV



Off-Campus Events

2- Jacks Mannequin Concert — Dayton Arena

5- Ke\$ha Concert — Dayton Arena

21- Cirque De Soleil: OVO — Cincinnati

Zumba!

For Safe Harbor - \$5
7:30-8:00 - Gymnasium

April 5

Profs Look to Engage Beyond Lectures

Many faculty members use unique teaching methods to reach their students.

by Elizabeth Graff

Students in this culture learn through experience, and many educators now know that students need to engage the material to learn. Several Cedarville professors have developed unique teaching methods to get their students more involved and to help them absorb the important material.

Professor Jeffrey Cook, professor of Urban Ministry, is well-known for his poverty and refugee weekends, which allow students to experience being homeless in the city or being a refugee on the run. Cook said his students say these weekends are “life-altering, life-changing, paradigm-shifting experiences. Most people think differently about God, about people, about ministry, and about the city after these weekends.”

Making his students live in the circumstances of the people they want to minister to clearly communicates Cook’s belief that education has many facets.

“Education is far more than just telling people things,” Cook said. “When Jesus was teaching his guys, what He didn’t do was tell them ‘All right, sit down and take out a notebook and write this stuff down that I’m going to tell you.’ What really imprinted upon them his agenda and his ministry was the fact that they did stuff together, that they experienced things together.”

Cook said that most educational circles only focus on telling students information instead of creatively trying to engage students in different ways.

“If a person has been created as a physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual being, then education is going to embrace all of those things. If I only engage a part of that whole person, and to just focus on downloading data, then I’m not educating my students.”

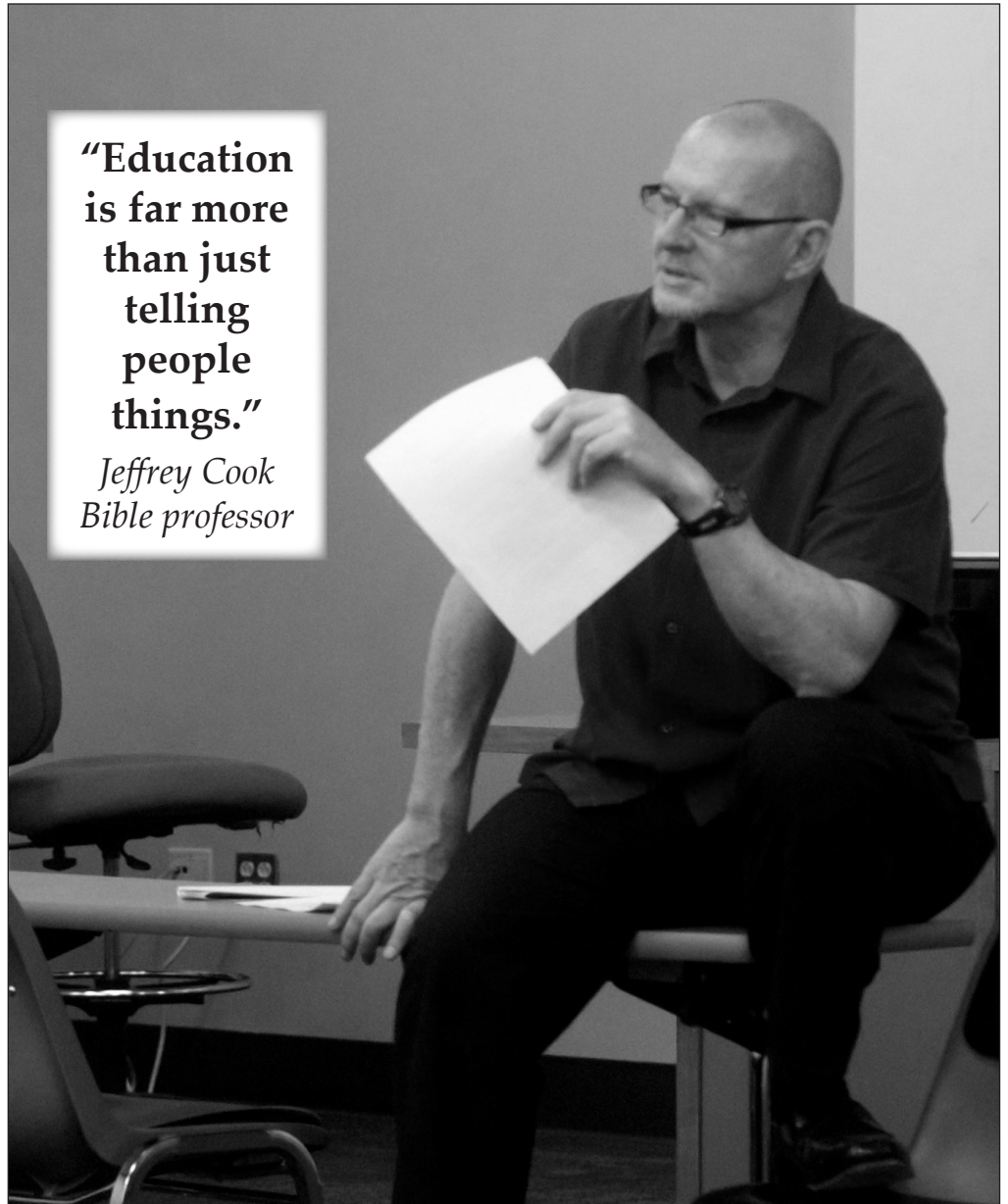
Cook said he believes the educational process should filter to all the different aspects of people, not just one.

“Somehow we have to engage people holistically,” Cook said. “My philosophy of ministry is holistic. Every professor and student must embrace a philosophy of learning that is holistic.”

Professor Otis Wright teaches Introduction to Math, a General Education course that Wright said students from all different majors choose to take because they’ve heard it’s easy. Wright

“Education is far more than just telling people things.”

*Jeffrey Cook
Bible professor*



Photos by Jonathan Moultroup

Jeffrey Cook prepares his students for the poverty weekend, the highlight of his Urban Ministry class.

said that most of these students harbor not-so-fond feelings toward math when they arrive.

“I like sharing with them how math all fits together,” he said. “Math is logical, talks about order, has patterns, and brings sense to things that may seem difficult at first, but once you put numbers into a mathematical formulation, it becomes amazingly easy to understand. I like trying to share the excitement that I have about this with the students.”

Because so many of the students in his classes come in expecting math to be boring, Wright said, he incorporates demonstrations in his

lessons.

“I model patterns in juggling with mathematical equations,” Wright said. “Now I don’t actually make the students juggle, but I do make them juggle the numbers and work out problems about juggling, and whether or not a certain sequence of juggling is possible.”

Wes Baker, distinguished professor of communication arts, teaches journalism and electronic media. He said he strives to give his classes as much practical application as possible.

“If you treat this just as a class, as something of

no importance and with no application to the real world, then what good is it?" Baker said. "You've got to have some application to what you're going to be doing out there."

But at first, Baker said, he struggled with ways to incorporate that application. In the days before CedarNet, he said he taught a class about screen design. Then CedarNet came along, and he put the Power Point slides online for the students. He said he remembers stopping in the middle of the lecture and saying, "This is really stupid. You are copying down information from the screen that has not gone through either of our brains. This is all on the network now, just go on the network and get it. Why are we wasting time working through these slides in class?"

On his way back to his office in Collins, Baker said he realized that he had just given away all the class content to his students.

"What am I going to do in class for the rest of the term?" he asked himself. He decided to switch the classroom and homework activities. Instead of delivering the content by lecture, he decided to let the students work through the class work at home. Then in class, he would have the students work on what had usually been homework, using the class time to work on content application.

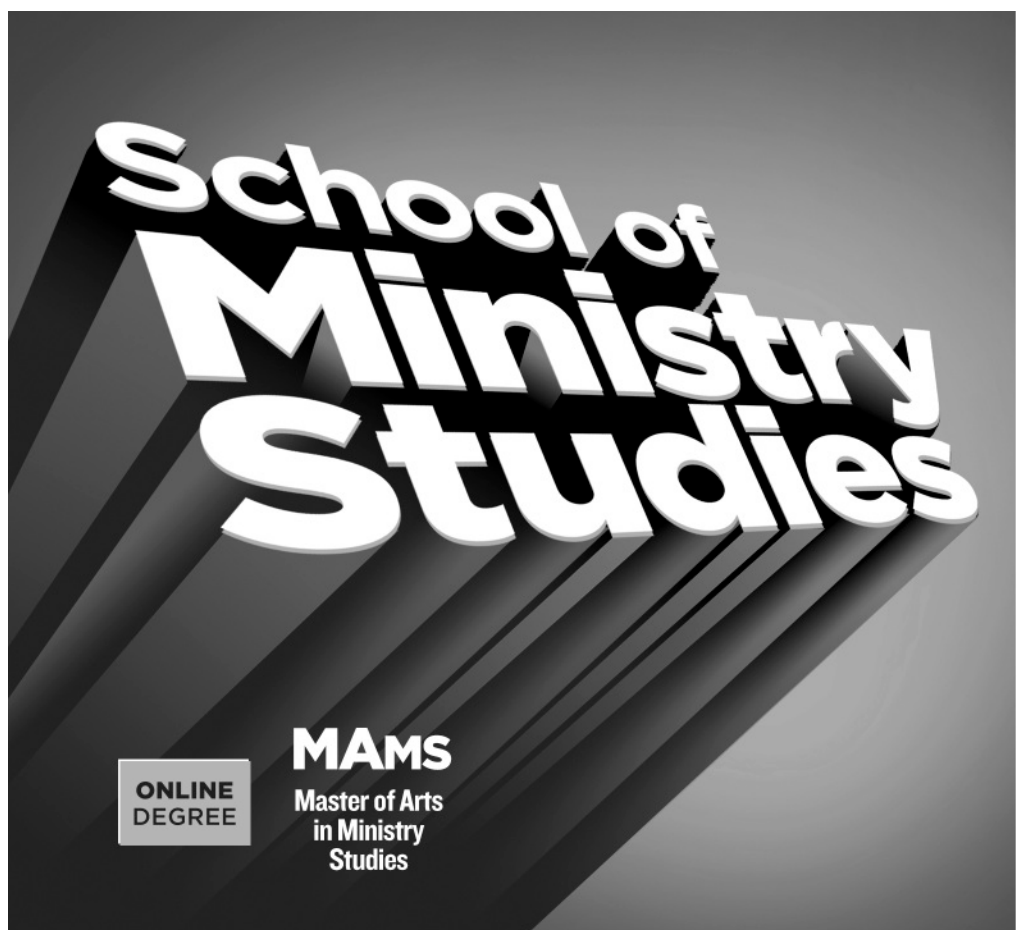
In his classes now, Baker said he still uses these ideas. In his journalism classes, he sets up the class as a newsroom.

"When I presented this idea to my students, I told them, 'I don't want you to think of this as a class. These are not assignments for class. I want you to think of this as work that you're doing. As a result, there will be a different attitude that you take toward it. Because it's the development of these work skills and attitudes and mindset that you need to be developing.'"

If Baker's students develop a story in the class that can be used outside of class for Cedars or Resound, they receive "Baker Bucks," which are like Monopoly money for extra credit or prizes. He said this helps the students feel like they are working a job. They can feel like reporters in the workforce who take the time to develop their stories, then hand in a finished product to their editor and receive pay.

These professors have strived to create teaching methods that will help students, but the students are also responsible for their learning. Cook said that both students and professors need to share the responsibility of education.

"People get out of an education what they are willing to put into it," Cook said. "To the degree that students are willing to engage in the process of learning, it's to that degree that they will become different people."



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'I Will Never Be the Same'

Student shares radical spiritual and physical transformation.

by Zak Weston

When believers reflect on when they came to Christ, they usually think of how they changed on the inside. While Michael Beach's conversion changed him inwardly, he also remembers the drastic change it brought about on the outside.

Beach has a dramatic before-and-after story of his conversion to faith in Christ. Within six months of coming to know Jesus as his Savior, Beach lost 115 pounds and changed his attitude toward life.

Beach's parents are Christians, but when he was six years old, his parents got divorced. After that, Beach lost interest in school and grew resentful toward his parents.

"I started getting angry, and I refused to go to church," Beach said. "I would fight with my parents. I attended a Christian school but didn't care what was going on. I was apathetic."

His spiritual struggle had physical ramifications too, Beach said.

"I would just go play video games and eat all the time, because that was how I got away from everything," Beach said. "My health was bad and my weight got up to 268 pounds in 9th grade."

Beach said he didn't care about anything during his freshman year, and his grades were suffering. But during the summer before his sophomore year, Beach came to know Jesus Christ personally on a youth group trip. He traveled with his church youth group to Kingdom Bound, an evangelistic outreach at Six Flags Darien Lake in upstate New York.

"I just wanted to go because it was an amuse-

"Right then and there, I prayed in front of everyone. I gave my life to Him, and once I opened my eyes — I could feel the weight lifting off my shoulders."

ment park," he said, but one of the speaker's messages really tugged on his heart. "I realized how my life was a mess. Right then and there, I prayed in front of everyone. I gave my life to Him, and once I opened my eyes — I could feel the weight lifting off my shoulders."

After that, Beach said, his body and his life began to look different. He quit playing video games and started actively involving himself in sports. He became the lead guitarist on his school's worship team, served as the student leadership council treasurer and led a Bible study for freshmen. During the beginning of

his sophomore year, he lost 115 pounds.

"People didn't even recognize me when I got back to school," he said, "and my academics went from almost failing to a 98 percent average in 10th grade."

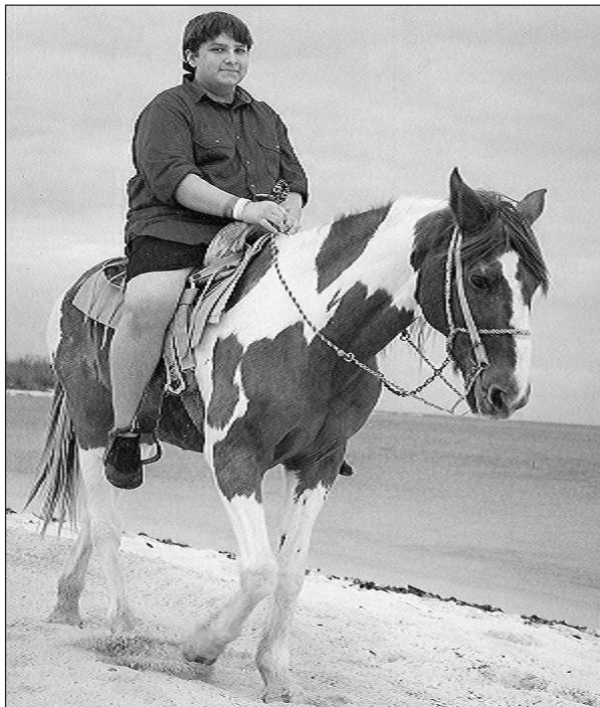
After graduation, Beach said he grew interested in attending a Christian college that offered Air Force ROTC. Beach's father is retired from the Air Force, and he said he hopes to follow in his father's path. Beach's school principal, Cary Shaw, is a Cedarville graduate and recommended that Beach visit. He and his family visited during his spring break last year, and he decided to apply.

Now an active member of Air Force ROTC and a Criminal Justice major, Beach said he loves Cedarville and the new life he is living here.

He said he remembers how the director of his singing group in high school always asked him to share his testimony before they sang the song that encapsulated his conversion to Christ.

"We would sing the song, 'I Will Never Be the Same Again.'"

Photos provided by Michael Beach



Michael Beach in 9th grade before his life transformation.



Today, Beach is 115 pounds lighter and in Air Force ROTC.

What's Good? (I mean, other than God?)

Cedars' Top Picks in Indie Christian Music

by Lyndsey Gvora

You've heard it before: someone complains that the Church is lagging behind the secular world in terms of its ability to maturely create and evaluate art. Or maybe you've grown jaded: it seems to you that The Christian Record Label, with its ear aimed toward what sells over what is profitable for righteousness, has stunted artists stylistically — and you're frustrated. Or maybe you're just thinking: I don't mind a little Jesus music every now and then, but sometimes I feel the genre has nothing substantial to offer me. Fear not, Christian soldier. We've tracked down some of the most skilled musicians that indie Christendom has to offer. So pick up those headphones and prepare to invite these folks into your hearts. Er, ears.

1) Sleeping At Last

File under: Thoughtfully orchestrated alt. rock (think Sufjan meets Anathallo meets Thom Yorke)

One has to wonder: How was music this good kept under wraps for over a decade? Up until "Grey's Anatomy" aired their song "Quicksand" in late



2006, Ryan O'Neal and Dan Perdue were virtually invisible in the music world in spite of four stellar LPs, tours with well-known bands like the Format and Yellowcard, and Billy Corgan's vigorous patronage. In

July 2010, the band announced "Yearbook," an ambitious 36-song EP, broken down into 12 monthly installments. (That's right, you math genius, you — three songs per month.) John Goodmanson ("Death Cab for Cutie") remains onboard as the album's mixer, and a parade of fabulous guests (most notably, Jon Foreman and Easley's Stacy DuPree) float seamlessly in and out of the album's tracks. Now halfway through the project, the band has successfully delivered 18 richly textured, introspective songs for your hearty consumption.

For more, visit <http://www.sleepingatlast.com/>

3) My Epic

File Under: What music might sound like if C. S. Lewis sported plaid, gauged his ears, and fronted a post-metal band

Ever stumble upon a band and — feeling that you've unearthed buried treasure — go crazy posting an almost offensive amount of the band's music all over Facebook? This was my reaction to My Epic's latest release, "Yet," which dropped last summer (unbeknownst to the rest of the world, whose ears were stuffed instead with Katy Perry's "California Girls.") The lyrics read with the denseness of a meaty devotional (the untitled track, for instance, personalizes Exodus 3: "When your servant tried to ask your name / a million words could not contain the meaning / ... so you cradled him, like you cradle me and whispered / I am / Oh My God! I am not, but you are.") Their sound settles somewhere on the fine line between expectedly intense and organically melodic. The result is a palatable feast for the mind and ear, accessible even to those who remain apprehensive about hard music. Presently, the Charlotte, N.C.-based group is preparing for a short west coast tour beginning in late March.



For more, visit <http://www.myspace.com/myepic>

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2) Humble Beast Records

File under: Rap/hip-hop

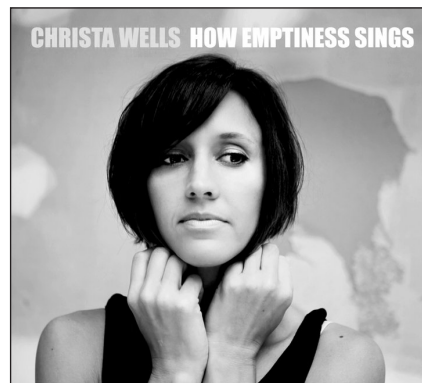
Newsflash. Lecrae ain't all Christian hip-hop has to offer anymore. Sure, he's raised the bar of artistic excellence and production quality, making the genre more accessible to the masses — so why not enjoy the fruits of his labor? Riding the wave of newfound confidence that came with Lecrae's success, a number of labels rose up in support of new artists, including Humble Beast Records. Founded in March 2010, Humble Beast quickly made a name for itself as a source for cutting-edge Holy Hip-Hop. The label currently boasts eight talented artists. Standouts are Propaganda and Odd Thomas (whose smart, bold collaboration, "Art Ambidextrous," dropped earlier in February) and Foreknown Apostolic, whose passion and wit exceeds the size of his massive beard. Their goal for 2011? To make all releases available to download for free. Can I get a hallelujah?

For more, visit <http://www.humblebeast.com/>

4) Christa Wells

File under: Can you say, "Poignant picturesque piano" three times fast? Because I can.

Anderson University graduate and Raleigh, N.C., resident Christa Wells received the Gospel Music Association "Songwriter of the Year" award in 2006 — a pleasant blip on her otherwise silent CCM radar. After receiving the award for penning "Held" (which Natalie Grant performed on her album



"Awaken"), Wells began work on several projects of her own. Her second solo effort, "How Emptiness Sings," was released on Marc 15. The seven-track EP has already received high praise from reviewers for its poetic eloquence and strong musical craftsmanship. Because of her honest and clever execution, Wells earns her spot as one of the few Christian musicians (I've found) who can overtly address the joys and struggles of Christianity without appearing trite or cheesy.

For more, visit <http://www.christawellsmusic.com/>

You Say You Want a Revolution

The Ultimate Idiot's Guide to a Movement Rocking the Middle East

by Kate Cella

Image by World Map Now

TUNISIA

Mohammed Bouazizi and the Flame that Set the Arab World Ablaze

It all began at a vegetable cart in Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia. Mohammed Bouazizi was a 26-year-old with a computer science degree, one of Tunisia's scores of **disenfranchised, disenchanting** and unemployed young adults reduced to selling produce for a living. Because Bouazizi was selling his vegetables without a license on the morning of Dec. 17, local authorities confiscated his produce and slapped him in the face — a literal upsetting of the cart that had historic ramifications.

Outraged at not only the insult but frustrating economic and political conditions in Tunisia, Bouazizi doused himself in gasoline and **set himself on fire**, igniting 24 years of simmering dissent among the Tunisian people. Bouazizi initially survived the immolation, but his death a few days later transformed his charred image into a martyr and a figurehead for impassioned protests in Tunisia that eventually unseated the country's dictator **Zine al-Abidine ben Ali**.

Tunisia's protests unleashed three months of wrath (and counting) throughout North Africa and the Middle East as people rose up to demand new leadership and political reform.

LYBIA

A Disaster in the Making

There is no understanding the situation in Libya without a crash course in **Muammar Kaddafi**, Libya's clinically insane president and perhaps one of history's most bizarre heads of state. Notorious for hours-long invectives at the United Nations that affix a new meaning to the word "random," his discourses have included everything from re-investigating the JFK assassination to suggesting the creation of a Taliban state (it's just like the Vatican, right?).

"The mad dog of the Middle East," as President Ronald Reagan described him, has brutally repressed the people of Libya and been a proud state sponsor of terrorism for the past 42 years, cracking down on dissension with violent alacrity.

After four decades of repression from their Baby Jane Hudson military dictator, it's about time that the people of Libya revolted — but they are paying for it dearly. The situation has spun into a near-civil war, as Kaddafi's loyalist forces have commenced bombing raids and heavy artillery fire on the opposition — who are also heavily armed.

(Cont'd on Page 9)

EGYPT

Mubarak: It's Been Real

Meet **Hosni Mubarak**, the Egyptian president who loved his job so much that he just couldn't give it up. President Mubarak extended his administration under "emergency laws" to remain in power for 30 years. While he did much to facilitate Arab-Israeli peace talks, Mubarak presided over a rather rapacious regime and a country with steadily festering unemployment, radicalism and a surge of dissatisfied youth in the Egyptian population.

Despite his autocracy, the United States stayed chummy vis-à-vis Mubarak for almost all 30 of those years because of Egypt's strategic position as an American ally in the region and a de facto supporter of Israel. That's also the reason why Egypt's protests greatly upstaged Tunisia's and almost all of the others in the media — for the U.S., Egypt is a critical player in the Middle East.

President Mubarak **resigned** on Feb. 11, a testament to the power of the popular uprising to unseat a dictator of three decades who vowed in 2004 to remain president "until the last breath in my lungs and the last beat in my heart."

Upon his departure, the deposed dictator ceded his authority to the Egyptian military, the country's **center of gravity** and holder of public loyalty according to Professor of International Studies Frank Jenista. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces has a major responsibility in guiding Egypt's transition to a new administration.

For More on
This Story,
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Online

LYBIA (cont'd)

The unfortunate truth of the matter is that Kaddafi has absolutely no interest in unifying his population and restoring stability — his only stake is maintaining power, which is why according to Hisham Melham of Foreign Policy Magazine, Kaddafi is willing to drag his country “into the jaws of hell.”

IRAQ

Things Could Fall Apart

A key difference in the situation in Iraq is that protestors were not demanding a new government, just reform and an expansion of government services — pretty reasonable from a population living through decades of violence and upheaval.

Chaos erupted in Iraq yet again when army officers fired on crowds of demonstrators, intensifying the furor of Iraqi protestors. **Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki** responded to the people by slashing electric bills as well as his own salary and by posing an ultimatum to his administration: shape the country up in 100 days or ship out.

Tensions are still rife along religious and ethnic divides, stressing the alarmingly brittle spine of Iraq's tenuous democracy.

BAHRAIN

The Island of Lilliput

After Gulliver washed up on the shores of Lilliput in the beginning of Jonathan Swift's 18th century novel, he awoke to find himself bound and at the command of tiny little dictators — a lot like how Bahrain's Shiite majority feels under the autocratic rule of a Sunni minority on this now tumultuous island.

The important thing about Bahrain is that its Sunni monarchy is connected very closely with the Saudi government, also an autocratic Sunni monarchy. However, Bahrain's Shiite majority renders the island's public more ideologically similar to Iran, a regime devoted to protecting and promoting the world's Shiites ... among other things.

While demonstrators face brutal crackdowns from local and Saudi authorities for demanding political reform and an end to corruption, the protests racking Bahrain's city streets — which happen to rest on a sea of oil — involve **a lot more than civil unrest**. The situation in Bahrain has everything to do with regional politics, balance of power and oil.

Northern Africa and the Middle East



Image by: MabryOnline.com

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Book Reviews

‘Washed and Waiting’

by Rose Havard

One of the most sensitive topics in Christian circles today is homosexuality. It is a subject avoided in polite conversation along with politics and religion. However, it is undeniable that Western culture is accepting the homosexual lifestyle as another norm. Despite ardently enthusiastic anti-gay groups, the Gay Rights movement has grown from small beginnings in the 1950s to a powerful engine driving

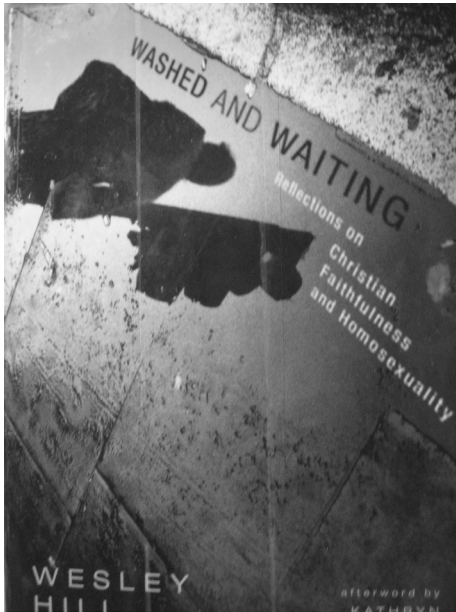
change in human rights issues internationally. A line has been drawn between the two camps and there seems to be no middle ground. Homosexuality is either wrong or it is just another perfectly acceptable lifestyle. Christians today may feel pressured to be adamantly against gays and lesbians. Some churches treat homosexuality as equivalent to adultery, or possibly even worse.

When Wesley Hill set out to write “Washed and Waiting” he knew his focus would not be on “yes” or “no;” he would not just write another right-wing conservative Christian anti-gay book. Hill wanted to write the book he had searched for all his life — a book that he said “tries to put into words some of the confusion and sorrow and triumph and grief and joy of the struggle to live faithfully before God, in Christ, with others, as a gay person.” Wesley Hill is a homosexual Christian — someone who struggles day to day with homoerotic desires and who also day to day takes up his cross and follows on the narrow path.

“Washed and Waiting” is a surprisingly small book considering the breadth of its topic, a mere 160 pages divided in six parts. Transitions are hardly noticeable — the reading is as fluid and deep as a conversation with a pastor. Stylistically, Hill chooses the path of the painfully truthful testimony. Although this book is steeped with the voices of other theologians and Biblical writers, the majority of the book is Hill’s self-evaluation of his personal struggle.

“I am writing as one homosexual Christian for other homosexual Christians,” he begins in the introduction. Hill dissects his life in a startling, satisfyingly revealing way. His ability to communicate his life’s purpose with deliberate succinctness allows him to connect with all Christians, no matter what their particular struggle. Hill emphasizes that “the dynamics of human sinfulness and divine mercy and grace are the same for all of us, regardless of the particular temptations or weakness we face.”

Hill’s short discourse touches on many central themes of human nature: the desire for relationship, the struggle of unfulfilled desires evidenced in loneliness, the leaden weight of shame so many Christians live under daily as they fight sin and lose. Speaking directly to this issue of shame, Hill defines how being a homosexual Christian has been an experience of intense feelings of dirtiness. Despite his own belief that homosexuality is a perversion of God’s intended design, Hill testifies that the twisted orientation has not left him. Rather, he has been and will be in a state of waiting for the final deliverance, when Jesus returns and the world is renewed. Then, he says, the homosexual temptations, along with the rest of sin, will fade away. Hill describes his battle in these terms: “Washed and waiting. That is my life — my identity as one who is forgiven and spiritually cleansed and my struggle as one who perseveres with a frustrating thorn in the flesh, looking forward to what God has promised to do.”



‘Room’

by Holly McClellan

The world is Jack’s oyster.

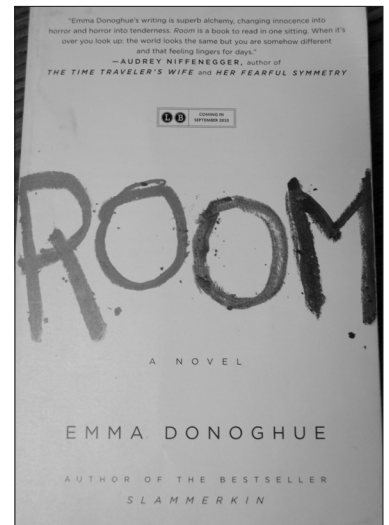
And for a 5-year-old, that world contains endless discovery. To him, everything is exciting: running, jumping on the bed, making mazes out of toilet paper rolls and snakes out of eggshells. He loves “Dora the Explorer,” but his best friend is his mother, known to him as simply “Ma.” Together they inhabit Jack’s world, made up of objects he childishly assigns singular, capitalized names: Lamp, Table, Rug. Because in Jack’s world, there is only one Lamp, one Table, one Rug. And one Room.

Readers may only gradually discover that Jack’s innocuous narration of his daily life masks an aw-

ful truth: that he has spent all of his five years in a single, locked, soundproof room — 11 feet wide, 11 feet long, 11 feet tall. There is no way out, and the only external figure to ever enter Room is the man imprisoning Jack and his mother inside. Biologically, he is Jack’s father, but to Ma — kidnapped from her college campus seven years prior — he is nothing but a monster.

It seems that the world has only recently recognized the reality of nightmarish crimes such as the one constituting the plot of “Room.” The recent high-profile reappearance of Jaycee Dugard, who spent 18 years in captivity and bore her captor two children, has catapulted the issue from novels to newspapers. In her award-winning novel “Room,”

Continued on the next page



Irish author Emma Donoghue skillfully draws readers into such horrors — perhaps a little too close for comfort.

What keeps the story from devolving into utter misery is Jack's perspective. As energetic and adventurous as any child, Jack cannot conceive of Room as a cage, for he knows of nothing else except what he has gleaned from TV, which he assumes is pretend. Yet shortly after Jack's fifth birthday, Ma begins the tortuous process of "unlying:" telling him about her family, her previous life, and all the wonders of the world her kidnapper has stolen from them. Jack soon discovers that this is no idle storytelling — Ma plans to show these things to him herself. To attempt escape is to risk everything, but after five years of making a life out of nothing for her

son, Ma is convinced they have nothing to lose.

... Jack cannot conceive of Room as a cage, for he knows of nothing else except what he has gleaned from TV...

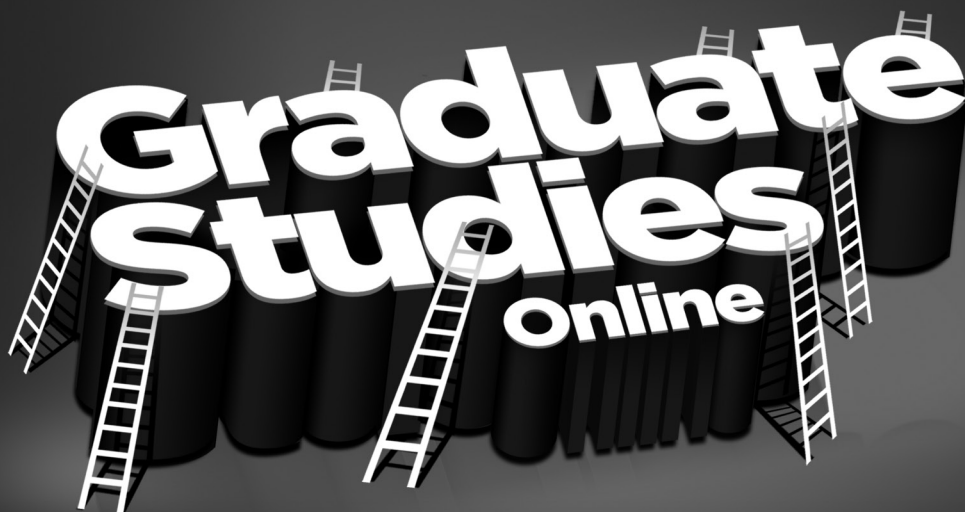
Understandably, little more can be said of "Room" without revealing key plot elements. And the story is one of such meticulous crafting that, in a sense, a reader must live in Room with Ma and Jack to appreciate it fully. Donoghue creates her small world masterfully, mainly through her precise characterization of Jack. Not

excessively cute — at times not even overtly likable — Jack serves as an unsuspecting hero who simultaneously softens the book's harshness and adds unique poignancy to its cruelty.

That being said, "Room" is not a book for everyone. While Jack is mostly oblivious to the physical and psychological torment Ma regularly suffers, the reader certainly is not. The evil predating "Room" is palpable and as recent events have revealed, it is entirely realistic. It seems wrong to talk of "enjoying" a book like "Room;" yet it is by turns funny, disturbing, frustrating, and, more than anything, genuinely moving.

The triumph of "Room" is its enduring human element. Donoghue has fleshed out two characters so utterly full of life that setting the book aside feels like locking them up again. She imbues them with flesh and blood, crippling foibles and surprising virtues, the strength not only to survive but to thrive. Readers may find themselves wondering if they could have the strength to do the same. This is only one of many difficult questions asked by "Room," a book equally fascinating and haunting.

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Siemon to Trade One Court for Another

The best rebounder in school history will play volleyball next year.

by Katie Laustsen

Aubrey Siemon is an NAIA All-American basketball player, Cedarville's all-time leading rebounder and member of the career 1,000-point club. However, now that she has exhausted her basketball eligibility, she will play volleyball next year.

The senior from Springfield, Ohio, was recruited by multiple NCAA Division I schools for volleyball. So, why did she choose to play basketball at Cedarville?

An all-around athlete, Siemon played soccer, basketball and volleyball growing up. She later settled on volleyball and basketball as her main sports.

She began playing volleyball in sixth grade and quickly rose to the top of both her club and school teams. However, basketball remained her favorite sport, which she has played since first grade.

Siemon garnered a lot of attention during high school at her club volleyball team tournaments. She has a large shoebox full of her offers from NCAA schools like Michigan State, Alderson-Broadbudds and Syracuse.

Siemon's impressive high school basketball career also drew attention from several colleges. She holds the Northwestern High School basketball records for points in a single game, along with season and career records in points, rebounds and blocked shots. These stats brought offers from schools such as Findlay, Indiana Wesleyan, Wittenberg and the University of Dayton.

Although several NCAA Division I schools made compelling offers to play volleyball, Siemon chose to play basketball because of her love for the sport.

"I looked at the commitment factors and said, 'If I have to play this sport for four years, which one would I love doing?'" she said. "It was basketball over volleyball."

While Siemon did not want to attend Cedarville at first, she changed her mind after she saw the way the coaches and players welcomed her to the team during summer basketball camps.

"When I came on to Cedarville's campus, Coach Martin treated me so well," Siemon said. "I really felt like a part of the team coming in as a sophomore [in high school]."



Photo by Jonathan Moultroup

Aubrey Siemon's successful basketball career is over at Cedarville, but with a year of athletic eligibility left she will play one season of volleyball, a sport many schools tried to recruit her to play in college.

Siemon started nearly every game during her freshman year at Cedarville, finishing her rookie season on the NCCAA All-Tournament team and the AMC South Division All-Freshman team. She also noticed immediately the difference between Cedarville's attitude toward basketball and that of her previous teams.

"For me, playing basketball in high school was all for myself because I loved the game," she said. "It was a really selfish type of basketball. The focus [should be] on Christ, ultimately. God is the reason we have these skills, and we need to perform to our best ability to please God and to make Him smile."

She added how much she has enjoyed playing alongside her Cedarville teammates.

"Our team is like a family. We're all sisters in Christ growing to become better Christians and more like Christ."

Four-year teammate Lydia Miller said Siemon's unique testimony, her love for the Lord and her passion for Christ have affected the team in more ways than scoring points.

"The way she's played has been a huge contribution, but her passion and testimony have really impacted the team," Miller said.

Although she greatly contributes to the team off the court, Siemon's game has helped the Lady Jackets remain one of the top teams in the country. She averaged 12.3 points and 10.9 rebounds per game during her notable basketball career. She holds Cedarville's all-time rebounding record with 1,362 rebounds, and her 1,541 points make her the 12th all-time scorer.

Siemon entered Cedarville as a biology and environmental science major planning to graduate in four years, but she added an education major her sophomore year, forcing her to take a five-year graduation path.

Because she has used all four years of her basketball eligibility, Siemon decided to play vol-



Photo by Jonathan Moultrup

leyball during her fifth year to fill the time that basketball once consumed.

"It's kind of weird right now knowing that I'm done with basketball forever," Siemon said. "But having that time in the gym and having another team to hang out with and get to know has been awesome."

Her competitive experience and senior leadership will help the volleyball team in its upcoming rebuilding year and in its transition to NCAA Division II. The position for Siemon opened as the team recently lost its outside hitter.

"It's kind of weird right now knowing that I'm done with basketball forever. But having that time in the gym and having another team to hang out with and get to know has been awesome."

Aubrey Siemon

Although she will never lose her love for basketball, Siemon said she looks forward to the chance to continue her collegiate athletic career in volleyball.

Eventually, Siemon wants to combine the passions she developed at Cedarville to teach high school biology and coach middle school basketball in an urban school.

"I want to go in where they desperately need hope and they desperately need a God who loves them and where I can show God's love through me."

Spring Sports Preview

Baseball

Coach: Mike Manes

2009 results: 28-27 (6-18 AMC)

Key returnees: Nate Davenport (Jr.), Alex Beelen (Jr.), TJ Taylor (Sr.), Tyler Rost (Sr.), Rob Nesteroff (So.), Dan Petke (Jr.), Paul Hembekides (Jr.), Andrew York (Sr.)

Coach's comments: "We have a solid group of players returning. Most of them started as freshman and are now juniors so our experience should show during our conference run this spring [...] I expect we will

compete each and every day we have a game, be well prepared and make plays that experienced players should make. We will pitch well, play solid defense and get timely hitting."

Softball

Coach: Wes Rowe

2009 results: 21-29 (6-10 AMC)

Key returnees: Kendra Kassonie (So.), Melissa Murphy (So.), Meghan Creech (So.), Christina Zorn (Sr.), Kayla Thornsberry (So.), and Kenleigh Ludlow (So.)

Coach's comments: "Though we are young, we have very good talent this season. We are strong at every defensive position and

our offense is very talented. During our Florida trip 2 weeks ago, we merced (beat by 8 or more runs) 5 of the 6 teams that we beat. Our pitching is also good, but we lack pitching depth. We are capable of competing with any team that we face — we simply must pitch well and play good defense. We had a very successful recruiting year and we brought in some exceptionally talented new players. Several veteran players are recovering from injuries which occurred last fall or in the offseason. Additionally, the freshman class has players capable of making a significant contribution to the team's success."

Compiled by
Deanne Bradshaw

Forget the Football Team — Tressel's Testimony Takes Hardest Hit



by **Andrew Smith**

It fell apart for Ohio State head football coach Jim Tressel in one monumental mistake.

He was once the good guy of college football. He won (a lot — a 106-22 career record and seven conference championships), and seemed to do it the right way.

Tressel was an honest, W.W.J.D. bracelet-wearing coach with a strong Christian testimony and plenty of career success. He wrote a book in 2007, *"The Winner's Manual,"* which highlighted ten categories for winning the "Game of Life," including faith in God.

Then two weeks ago, there was a massive tectonic shift in public perception at the news that Tressel had knowingly withheld information implicating five Ohio State players as ineligible by NCAA standards—including starting quarterback Terrelle Pryor.

In December 2010, Ohio State reported that the players had sold jerseys, championship rings, and other trinkets in exchange for free tattoos at a Columbus parlor. By NCAA rules, amateur athletes aren't allowed to receive financial or material compensation for their on-field efforts. The players were suspended for the first five games of the 2011 season, and the situation seemed to be resolved.

But it wasn't. On March 7, an investigative piece by Charles Robinson and Dan Wetzel of Yahoo Sports claimed via an anonymous source that Tressel was told about the players' indiscretions back in April of 2010—more than eight months before the school claimed to first hear about it.

In the days following the Yahoo piece, extensive email correspondence between Tressel and a Columbus attorney trickled out. The attorney, Ohio State graduate Christopher T. Cicero, had heard that the players were selling

"It only takes one lie."

My mother used to say that, and probably yours too. Years go into building a positive reputation; seconds go into tearing it down. And you usually don't get it back.

memorabilia to the tattoo-parlor owner (who was under investigation in a drug-trafficking case), and emailed Tressel to apprise him.

Four hours after the first email, Tressel responded: "Thanks. I will get on it ASAP."

He didn't. For unknown reasons, Tressel told no one—not even Ohio State's athletic director or compliance director. When the whole world found out about the memorabilia infraction in December, Tressel claimed to not know about it, despite being specifically asked several times.

He even signed a document on September 13, 2010—five months after the Cicero emails—that said he wasn't aware of any NCAA violations. Last Friday, the Columbus Dispatch reported that Tressel had forwarded the emails to Ted Sarniak, one of Pryor's high school mentors. With the news, Tressel's initial excuse that he was trying to protect Cicero's confidentiality no longer makes sense.

Tressel still hasn't explained why he kept the information to himself, leaving it to the national media to put it together. The press has almost unanimously assumed that Tressel covered up his players' behavior because he knew he had a good team in 2010 and might lose them to NCAA sanctions.

Worse, fans have made a joke out of his Christian testimony. Consider: Last season, the NCAA penalized University of Georgia star wide receiver A.J. Green for the first four games after he sold his jersey. While Georgia limped to a 6-7 record (going 1-3 without Green), Ohio State players got away with a similar infraction and won a Big Ten championship and a Fiesta Bowl.

After the Ohio State controversy exploded, this bitter Georgia blogger wrote: "What was Jim Tressel's first thought upon hearing the news that A. J. Green had been suspended for the first four games of the 2010 season? 'Suckers'? 'There but for the grace of God go I?'"

To the public, Tressel is a liar and a cheat, like most coaches. Problem is, for Christians, he was supposed to be better than that.

Look. I'm a Michigan fan. But when I read about the Tressel-drama, the last thing I thought of was Lloyd Carr's clean program or Rich Rodriguez's vindication as anything but a dirty coach. I'm a Christian first and a Michigan fan, like, sixth. I'm not rooting for Ohio State to get hammered by the NCAA because

of my School-Up-North rooting interest.

No — instead, I worry about the implosion of his testimony.

Tressel lied. There's no other way to put it. Whether by passively withholding information or overtly lying, he misled school officials. He told Cicero that he would deal with the issue "ASAP" and he didn't. Either he didn't take it seriously or decided to ignore the issue so it might go away. Neither is a reasonable excuse.

Remember, the NCAA is in its grim reaper stage—already piling sanctions earlier this year on USC and, to a lesser extent, Michigan—and it's doubtful that Tressel will manage to get away with a relatively meager self-imposed five-game suspension.

He may receive some further NCAA punishment, including failure to monitor, failure to promote an atmosphere of compliance, and potentially, unethical conduct. That last one, NCAA Bylaw 10.1, could be ominous for Tressel's future at Ohio State. For some context, according to a recent Columbus Dispatch article, of the 12 coaches since 2006 who were sanctioned for violating Bylaw 10.1, 11 have been fired—including former Ohio State basketball coach Jim O'Brien.

The worst thing about it isn't that he's a successful, apparently honest coach who lost his reputation. To Christians, he was the highest-profile Christian in college football.

He's been involved with Athletes in Action—an organization for Christian college athletes, he's spoken publicly about his faith and he's participated in Christian outreaches on campus. He even released another book in February: *"Life Promises for Success: Promises from God on Achieving Your Best."*

Tressel — whether he intentionally tried to get away with wrongdoing or not — has damaged both his reputation as an honest, character-first football coach and his gospel testimony as an articulate Christian. He might not get it back.

With this one misstep, what was once a compelling testimony suddenly loses meaning. If he does lose his job — which is becoming increasingly possible — he'll bow out of the public eye a disgraced and humbled man. And that's how he'll be remembered.

Just one lie. That's all it takes.

'What Are You?'



by *Emily Severance*

I hate this question.

I'm from the suburbs of Philadelphia — a place where diversity is not so much an agenda as it is a way of life. My town has mixed populations of Indian, Asian, Hispanic, black and Caucasian people. There I have never been asked the "What are you?" question. But since coming

to Cedarville, I have noticed that I'm asked that question on a regular basis — not just when I meet someone at school, but in town as well.

I'll share one example. I covered a Cedarville Village Council meeting for a local newspaper, and as I waited for the meeting to begin, I made small talk with the man seated next to me. I told him that I was a reporter for the local paper, and the first thing he said to me after a hurried "That's interesting" was "So, what are you? You look different."

I didn't know what to say, so I laughed nervously. He continued: "Are you Spanish? Do you speak Spanish then?" It was like he had never seen someone who looked like me before. After all, almost 95 percent* of the population of Cedarville is white.

The strange thing is, I'm just your average middle-class (mostly) white girl from the suburbs. I'm not a minority. And I don't speak Spanish. I just happen to have a little bit of a mixed ethnic background and have a little texture to my hair. Mexican, Norwegian, Irish, German, French and a host of other things. And as I recently discovered, the mixture makes me pretty normal.

The New York Times published an article in January that caught my attention. It said, "The crop of students moving through college right now includes the largest group of mixed-race people ever to come of age in the United States, and they are only the vanguard: the country is in the midst of a demographic shift driven by immigration and intermarriage."

If that is true then why did I feel so singled out? I wondered how many other people had felt the same way as me, and how many people of mixed ethnic background there actually were at Cedarville. Why was it only here that I had experienced the "What are you" question?

If it wasn't because I was all that abnormal, then maybe it was because Cedarville was. In this town, looking a little different makes people stick out. And the university is not much different. It has almost the same number of minorities — less than 7 percent.

Cedarville has recognized that there is an issue and is trying hard to increase the diversity of the student population — the goal is 15 percent diversity by 2020. The university has been a step behind in this area for years and is now trying to play

catch up. But the diversity issues that are challenging our nation today looks a lot different than it did 30 years ago. So yes, there is still racial reconciliation that needs to happen here. But there are also other factors to consider.

There are major demographic changes happening in our country. The 2010 U.S. Census data indicated pretty clearly that the fastest growing minority group in America is the Hispanic population, to no one's surprise. Combine those statistics with the increase in mixed-race Americans and you have a recipe for change.

But this change might be hard to recognize because of how difficult it is to get an accurate estimation of what America really looks like in terms of race. Every school and employer wants

**This community should
be known for asking,
"Who are you?" instead of
"What are you?"**

to know the answer to the "What are you?" question, but the problem is, many Americans don't answer accurately.

There was a time in our country when any person with a drop of African blood was considered black, and this antiquated way of thinking has certainly distorted the nation's race count and perception of cultural diversity. The Times article shared this example: On his 2010 U.S. Census form, President Obama (whose mother is white and father is black) identified himself as being only black, even though he was raised by his white mother and grandparents. This is just one illustration of how this "one race" mindset has permeated American culture ... and Cedarville.

It's clear that there needs to be a paradigm shift. America is a nation of immigrants, which makes this country incredibly unique. It's time to recognize the realities of immigration and intermarriage and celebrate the integration of cultures that has resulted in so many mixed-raced Americans.

The Cedarville community must recognize how inherently diverse it already is and how diverse each person is individually. That recognition should change the way people treat those who are different than them. This community should be known for asking, "Who are you?" instead of "What are you?" Since mixed-raced students are abundant they should not be treated as an abnormality.

I am encouraged that Cedarville recognizes that diversity is an issue that needs to be addressed, but I hope that in its search for a more "ethnically diverse" student body, the university will begin by recognizing the how diverse it already is.

**This statistic is taken from 2009 U.S. Census data estimates. Data from the 2010 U.S. Census has not yet been released.*

Run for Justice

IJM hosted the 2nd Annual Possible Impossibilities 10k to raise money for Daughters of Cambodia.



Photos by Stuart Li

